Agricultural Education in Assam

493. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICAR have chalked out any plan to promote agricultural education to the farmers in the State of Assam;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the necessary action being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

<b) to (d) (i) Established Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVK) in four districts of Assam viz., Golaghat, Cachar, Sonitpur and Kokrajhan, *in*
favour of Assam Agricultural University (AAU), Jorhat. The activities of KVK include frontline demonstration, on-farm testing, training of farmers and extension personnel.

(ii) Provide;' financial support for strengthening the existing Zonal Agricultural Research Stations in six districts viz., Karbi-Angiong, Nagaon, Lakhimpur, Karimganj, Kamrup and Taisukia; to take up the additional functions of KVK.

(iii) Launched an innovative technology assessment and refinement programme called "Institution Village Linkage Programme (IVLP)" withAAU to ensure access of agricultural technology to the entire farming community in a village or a cluster of villages.

(iv) Sanctioned for establishment of Agricultural Technology Information Centre (ATIC) with AAU to create a single window support system for availability of technology products, services and information to the farmers and other end users.